

Mobile Sources

and Rhode Island

Fact Sheet #5—Low Emission Vehicles (LEVs)

August 2014

Low Emission Vehicles (LEVs)

To help in Rhode Island's continued commitment to reduce air pollution from vehicles in-state, RIDEM adopted California's program for Low Emission Vehicles in 1996. The Rhode Island LEV Program is part of a broader regional effort to reduce air pollution from motor vehicles.

What is the LEV Program?

The Rhode Island Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) Program requires that new vehicles sold in the state meet the same emission requirements as new vehicles sold in California. The program includes Model Year 2008 and newer vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) up to 6,000 pounds, and Model Year 2009 and later vehicles with a GVWR up to 14,000 pounds. A new vehicle is defined as one having 7,500 miles or less on its odometer, regardless of the number of prior registrations. The program became effective in 1996.

LEV Rules:

The Federal Standards (U.S. EPA) now more closely mirror the California's Low Emission Vehicles III Standards adopted nationwide. Both state and federal rules require the greenhouse gas emissions of new light-duty vehicles to average an equivalent of 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025. The rules also reduce the emissions of pollutants that contribute to ozone formation by 75 percent. Emissions of other toxic air pollutants are also greatly lowered.

LEV Program:

- Adopted in 1996.
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.
- Reduce emissions of pollutants that contribute to ozone formation by 75%.
- Lower toxic air pollutant emissions.
- Federal Standards now more closely mirror the California's Low Emission Vehicles III Standards.

Why Does Rhode Island Have a LEV Program?

Motor vehicles are the largest source of air pollutants that contribute to ozone formation in Rhode Island and across much of North America. The number of vehicles on Rhode Island's roads and the miles they travel are increasing. By ensuring new motor vehicles registered in the state are the cleanest vehicles the manufacturers can supply, Rhode Islanders will derive significant air quality benefits.

How Do I Know If My Vehicle Is a LEV?

A Vehicle Emission Control Information Label is applied under the hood of every vehicle. On this label, you'll find text indicating that the vehicle conforms to the California regulations.

VEHICLE EMISSION CONTROL INFORMATION		
ENGINE FAMILY	EFN 2.8V8T2EA	OBD II
DISPLACEMENT	2.8 L	CERTIFIED
THIS VEHICLE CONFORMS TO U.S. EPA AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO 2008 MODEL YEAR NEW LEV PASSENGER CARS		
REFER TO SERVICE MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TUNE UP CONDITIONS: NORMAL OPERATING ENGINE TEMPERATURE ACCESSORIES OFF, COOLING FAN OFF, TRANSMISSION IN NEUTRAL		
EXHAUST EMISSIONS STANDARDS		STANDARD CATEGORY
CERTIFICATION IN USE	TLEV	
TLEV INTERMEDIATE		
SPARK PLUG Type NGK BR15-1P GAP 1.1 mm	CATALYST	EFN 2.8V8T2EA

Where Can I Get More Information?

Click to learn more about [Rhode Island's Air Pollution Regulation #37](#) and the LEV Program.

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

235 Promenade St

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Providence RI 02908

•

(401) 222– 2808

www.dem.ri.gov